[22nd October 1927

A.—(a) & (b) Yes. The resolution of the Taluk Board was passed on 10th January 1927.

(c) The District Board passed a resolution on 19th February 1927, in favour of the division.

(d) Yes.

(e) & (f) The budgets have not yet been received.

(g) The President, District Board, has reported in favour of the division. The Government have not received the individual opinion of the President, Taluk Board, Rajahmundry.

(h) A list[a] based on the accounts for 1925–26 (the latest year for which complete accounts have been received) is appended.

(i) & (j) No. The budgets of the new Taluk Boards called for are awaited.

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"Can I take it that the Government will pass orders after the receipt of the budgets?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"No, Sir."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"May I know whether the Government have ordered the trifurcation? In answer to clauses (i) and (j) they say 'no.' If so, why do they say 'the budgets of the new taluk boards called for are awaited.' May I know whether a decision has not been arrived at?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The whole question will be taken into consideration by the Government, when the budgets are received."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"May I know the reason why they should necessarily wait till the Government receive the budget? Sir, there is no answer to my question why a decision has not been arrived at."

Municipalities

Building contract for the office of the Saidapet Municipality.

*858 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Saidapet Municipality has sanctioned a new building for its office;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative what is the estimated cost of the building;

(c) whether the building is in the course of construction;

(d) whether the contract for the building has been entered in the name of one Mr. Kolandavelu Mudaliyar;

(e) whether the said Kolandavelu Mudaliyar is the brother-in-law of Rathnavelu Mudaliyar who is the chairman-delegate of the municipality;

(f) whether the municipal authorities have ascertained whether the said Kolandavelu Mudaliyar has any previous experience in building work;

(g) whether tenders have been called for the building and if so, what was the lowest tender, and by whom it was made;

(h) whether the Government is aware of the public feeling in the municipality that the foundation was not properly laid and that inferior materials are being used in the construction of the building; and

[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 516 infra.

22nd October 1927]

(*i*) whether the Government is aware that there is practically no supervision or check by the Engineering Department of the municipality as the chairman-delegate is interested in the contract?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) Yes.
(*b*) About Rs. 23,300.
(*d*) The Council accepted the tender of M.R.Ry. Kolandavelu Mudaliyar in partnership with M.R.Ry. Raja Naicker.
(*e*) The Chairman, Municipal Council, Saidapet, has reported that M.R.Ry. Kolandavelu Mudaliyar is the brother-in-law of M.R.Ry. Ratnavelu Mudaliyar and that the latter is not the chairman-delegate.
(*f*) The Government have no information. The Chairman has reported that M.R.Ry. Kolandavelu Mudaliyar's partner has much experience in building work.
(*g*) Yes. The Government have no information of the amount of the lowest tender and are not prepared to give the name of the tenderer.
(*h*) A petition was received from certain rate-payers containing allegations to this effect.
(*i*) The Chairman has reported that the work has been in charge of an upper subordinate except for a few weeks between the resignation of the old and the employment of a new upper subordinate.

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to answer to (*e*), may I know, Sir, whether Mr. Ratnavelu Mudaliyar is even now at least a municipal councillor and the chairman-delegate very recently?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will call for that information, Sir."

Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to answer to (*g*), are the Government aware that there was a tender lower than the one for which the work was given?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes; the Government are aware of that."

Mr. C N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to answer to (*h*), what action do the Government propose to take?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"None."

Election of a Chairman for Palacole Municipality.

*858-A *Q.*—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the term of the present Chairman of Palacole municipality, West Godavari district, expires;

(*b*) whether the chairmanship will be thrown open for election;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) be in the negative, why the municipality is not allowed the privilege of electing its chairman; and

(*d*) whether the Government have also come to a decision about the person to be nominated, and if so, what that decision is?